

Appln. No. 10/576,730  
Response dated August 2, 2011  
Reply to Office action of March 15, 2011

**REMARKS**

The examiner considers this application to contain four groups of inventions (Groups I-IV) which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 and requires the election of a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Applicants elect without traverse Group I, presently comprising claims 1-3, 7-9 and 13, drawn to an isolated nucleotide sequence responsible for hp-I phenotype (SEQ ID NO:1) and a method for detecting the mutation by using said nucleotide sequence.

Favorable consideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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